

Remarks


Initially, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability given pending claims 1-7, should Applicants overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections in view of co-pending Application No. 10/520,578. Applicants note that a terminal disclaimer referencing the instant application has been filed with a response to an office action, in the co-pending Application No. 10/520,578. Accordingly, since both the instant application and the '578 application were filed on the same day, Applicants submit that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the instant application should be withdrawn under MPEP § 1490.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly accommodated. This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action at an early date is respectfully requested. However, if any matters remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-0734** referencing Docket No. 1182.015/ 3215PTUS. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: August 1, 2007  
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